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Vision 2020 Standing Committee Minutes 10/26/2004

ARLINGTON VISION 2020 STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 26, 2004 MEETING

Attendance: Jane Howard, Joey Glushko, Bettie Connors, Gail Dubois, Andrew Fischer, Elizabeth Karpati, Leslie Mayer, Heidi Brown Sheehan, Patricia Watson.

- The **minutes** of the September 23 meeting were accepted as presented.

Diversity:

- Bettie Connors received hate mail addressed to the Diversity Committee. She notified the police, who sent cruisers to Town Hall for the music and dance event held there on Saturday; also the Human Rights Commission and the editor of the Arlington Advocate, who interviewed her for an article.
- The Saturday event and the Profiles in Diversity event the preceding week went well, but the town-wide book read discussion had too much competition: a presidential debate, the World Series, and a discussion at the middle school on the same book the same night.

Town Hall Report:

- The Transportation Advisory Committee is busy with Symmes and other projects including seeking state funding for future traffic improvements and studying the likely impact of planned development in Cambridge and Belmont.
- The Town Clerk's office reported that over 1100 new voters registered, including 500 on the last day.
- Symmes: Some things voted by Town Meeting still need clarification. The developer is working on bringing in medical use. A Neighborhood Advisory Committee has been formed and approved.

Census Survey planning:

- Topics for questions:
- Disability and access, including access for people with temporary disabilities or encumbrances such as strollers.
- Encouraging biking to school (Leslie will talk to the Bicycle Advisory Committee about this).
- Town communication patterns – “who looks where for what” – to be drafted by Glenn Koenig.
- Health questions, about the obesity problem and possibly some related to the recent hepatitis scares.
- The Town Manager also plans to submit some questions.
- Some educational information should also be included, e.g. about the need to keep catchbasins free of leaves and shovel snow from hydrants.
- Leslie will do the first draft, to be reviewed by Heidi. The survey needs to go to the printer in mid-December, so the final draft should be ready by the December 7 meeting.
- The most up-to-date figure for number of copies needed for mailing is 2300.

Other matters:

- Reservoir: Res Committee members met with the DPW and the consultants on matters like designs for the bridges over the emergency spillways. The work on the dam will probably begin in November. A number of trees will be lost after all and will have to be replaced with trees planted elsewhere.
- As yet there is no student representative to the Standing Committee.
- The Insurance group has been invited to give a presentation to the League of Women Voters.
- The Community & Citizen Service and Culture & Recreation task groups are meeting jointly.